

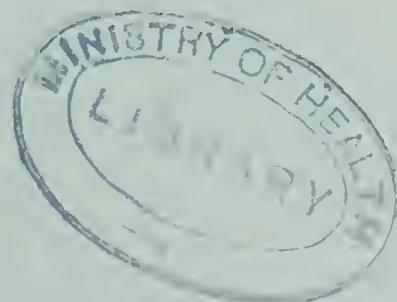
STONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1950.



STONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the Stone Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen

May I before making my observation of the contents of this report, apologise for its tardy appearance. This has been due to an illness which made the production of this report and the Atmospheric Pollution Report a very considerable strain. Both reports are however now complete and the Atmospheric Pollution report will be in your hands very shortly

The year has been happily uneventful in that no serious epidemic disease has afflicted us. The Measles though widespread was mild and there was no fatality. No case of Diphtheria was notified, this being the eighth year in which the success of the immunisation scheme has been so well shown, and should make it even more urgent a necessity that every parent secures for their children this invaluable protection. Although our figures for housing construction are not as good as the previous year, it will be seen from the table on housing that we still have a very substantial lead, particularly so when it is considered the standard quality of the houses we have built. Conversion and water connections will increase enormously when the Eccleshall extension and the Eastern Areas supply scheme is complete. It will be appreciated that the number of people having mains sanitation and piped water supply does not include our own building programme, in which of course, this is an essential. Finally, I wish I could report more farms in our area producing T.T. milk, but no doubt as our water schemes come into being this should be a more easy task for the farmer.

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. Hawkes and his staff for their ever willing and efficient help, and to the members of the council for their interest and support.

Yours sincerely,

C. GLYNNE OWEN.

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

C. Glynne Owen, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (London).

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Meat Inspector :

W. Hawkes, C.R.S.I. who is also Surveyor and Inspector under the Housing and Petroleum Acts. Rodent Officer.

Assistant to Sanitary Inspector:

B. K. Lovatt (Deputy Sanitary Inspector) M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

Clerk in the Sanitary Inspector's and Surveyor's Department :

E. J. Bevan.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) 61,565

Population (Registrar General Return) 16,070.

No. of Inhabited Houses	4,109	Rateable Value	£109,639
Commercial Premises	... 177	Penny Rate	... £439
Industrial Premises	... 25		
Miscellaneous	... 115		

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE AREA.

Bye-Laws made by the Council are now in force with regard to the following :—

New Streets.

Common Lodging Houses.

New Buildings.

Common Lands.

Water Supplies.

Dust Bins.

Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the open air,

Birth Rate Per 1,000 Population

Still Birth Rate Per 1,000 Population.

Year	Stone R.D.	Eng. & Wales	Year	Stone R.D.	Eng. & Wales
1950	13.7	15.8	1950	0.31	0.37
1949	16.01	16.7	1949	0.53	0.39
1948	15.3	17.9	1948	0.35	0.42
1950			1949		
Total Live Births	Live Births		Live Births		Total Live Births
220	M.	F.	M.	F.	260
Total Still Births	Total	120	100	Total	126
5	Legit.	110	95	Legit.	121
	Illegit.	10	5	Illegit.	5
Total Births	Still Births		Still Births		Total Births
225	Total	3	2	Total	6
	Legit.	3	2	Legit.	6
	Illegit.	0	0	Illegit.	0
Infant Death Rate under 12 months per 1000 live births	Deaths under 12 months		Deaths under 12 Months		Infant Death Rate under 12 months per 1000 live births
Stone R.D.	Total	4	4	Total	6
Eng. & Wales	Legit.	3	4	Legit.	6
	Illegit.	1	0	Illegit.	0

Actual Excess of Live Births over Deaths 220—166 = 54

Death Rate per 1,000 Population		Stone R.D.	Eng. & Wales
Year	1950	11.0	11.6
Year	1949	10.7	11.7

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

The following table shows the numbers of infectious and notifiable diseases sent in by Medical Practitioners during the year 1950.

Disease	Ist Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total	1949
Scarlet Fever ...	12	4	2	3	21	18
Whooping Cough ...	3	2	2	12	19	35
Measles	58	74	20	—	152	131
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	Nil	1
Pneumonia ...	5	—	—	1	6	10
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	Nil	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	1	2	2
Polio. Paralytic ...	—	1	—	1	2	—
Polio. Non Paralytic	—	4	—	—	4	—
Dysentery	—	2	—	4	6	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	2	—	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	1	1	—

Food Poisoning.

Total No. of Out- breaks.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of out- breaks of each.	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each.
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Analysis of causes of Deaths.

	Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2	1	3
Tuberculosis, other forms	0	0	0
Syphilitic Diseases	0	0	0
Influenza	1	1	2
Measles	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis and Encephalitis	0	0	0
Cancer (all sites)	17	12	29
Diabetes	0	2	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	8	20	28
Heart Diseases	20	23	43
Other Circulatory Diseases	7	2	9
Bronchitis	5	2	7
Pneumonia	1	5	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	0	2	2
Diarrhoea under two years of age	0	1	1
Appendicitis	0	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases	0	0	0
Nephritis	0	3	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes	0	0	0
Premature Birth	0	0	0
Birth Injuries, Malformation	0	2	2
Suicide	1	1	2
Road Accidents	1	2	3
Other violent causes	4	0	4
All other causes	12	7	19
	80	86	166

Number on Register	1950				Total	1949				Total	
	Tuberculosis		Non Pulmonary			Pulmonary	M.	F.	Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	M.	F.					M.	F.	
New Cases	2	1	2	1	6	6	41	41	10	13	104
Removed from Register	1	-	-	1	-						9

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The names of the staff of the Public Health Department are set out in page 1. No changes have taken place during the year.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological and Chemical Analysis of Water Supplies.

The total number of samples taken during the year for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis is 56. Details are as follows :—

Bacteriological examination of Water Supplies :—

Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	7
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	24

Chemical examination of Water Supplies :—

Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	16
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	9

Included in the above are samples which have been taken from the various Public Water Supplies and Private Supplies.

During the year 23 premises have been connected to the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board water mains where the existing well and spring supplies have proved to be unsatisfactory. Progress is still being maintained in providing premises with a piped supply.

ECCLESHALL EXTENSION SCHEME

Considerable progress has been made with regard to the Eccleshall Water Supply Scheme Extension which embraces the villages of Aspley, Slindon, Sturbridge, Sugnall, Walk Mill, Offley Hay, Garmelow, Whitley Heath, Wetwood and Fair Oak. By extending these mains the majority of the western side of the Council's district will be fairly well provided with a piped water supply with the exception of isolated farms and cottages.

This extension scheme is purely an extension of the main scheme for this area which was installed in 1938.

THE EASTERN AREAS SUPPLY SCHEME

This scheme was formally commenced by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board during the Spring of 1950.

When this scheme is completed the whole of the Hilderstone Road to Spot Acre, the villages of Cross Gate, Moss Gate, Fulford and Hilderstone will be served.

Efforts are being made by the Council in conjunction with the Agricultural Executive Committee to further extend the mains to incorporate the hamlets of Sharpley Heath, Stone Heath and Summerhill.

SANDON WATER SUPPLY.

A scheme has now been prepared by the Consulting Engineer Major A. H. Waters to supply the village of Sandon with a piped water supply.

MILWICH WATER SUPPLY

Authority has now been received from the Ministry for the construction of the 10,000 gallons reservoir at Milwich. The work has been commenced and has now been completed with the exception of the fixing of the combined washout and overflow valve.

The work can be completed as soon as the valve is delivered by the manufacturers.

YARNFIELD WATER SUPPLY

An amended scheme based on the proposal approved by the Council has now been prepared by the Staffs. Potteries Water Board for submission to the Ministry.

On the 1st October, 1950 the whole of the water undertakings administered by the Stone Rural District Council passed to the Staffs. Potteries Water Board.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

BARLASTON AND TITTENSOR SEWERAGE SCHEME

The work in respect of the individual house connections at Barlaston and Tittensor has now been completed.

As a result of this scheme, serious nuisances which formally existed in these areas have now been abated.

With the exception of a few isolated properties which could not be economically served by the General Sewerage Scheme this area is now adequately sewered.

MEIR HEATH SEWERAGE

A further scheme to sewer the properties on the east side of Sandon Road, Meir Heath is being prepared for submission to the Ministry as a result of complaints concerning the unsatisfactory condition of the drainage facilities in this vicinity. The scheme in question will serve 27 houses including 8 houses in Grindley Lane.

NORTON BRIDGE

The sewerage of the village of Norton Bridge has now been submitted to the Ministry for approval after the sewage disposal plant had been modified to meet the suggestions of the Ministry's Technical Advisors.

SAVERLEY GREEN, FULFORD AND YARNFIELD.

Schemes have now been prepared for the sewerage of the above mentioned villages and these proposals are being submitted to the Ministry.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council now operate four refuse vehicles and one open motor lorry.

One of these refuse vehicles is used partly for the collection of night soil from the township of Eccleshall which was previously carried out by Contract and the remainder of the vehicles working time is divided between the collection of waste paper and that of household refuse.

Considerable improvements have been made with regard to the operation of the Council's refuse tips and since my last report the low lying swampy ground in front of the Rough Close Sewage Works is being used for tipping purposes and as a result a considerable area of land will be reclaimed.

During the year steady progress has been maintained in the Council's programme for the conversion of earth closets into water closets. Details are as follows:—

Parish	No. of Conversions made				
Barlaston	10
Eccleshall	22
					—
Total					32

CAMPING SITES

During the year 1950, 16 licenses were granted and one refused under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Details of these licenses issued by parishes are shown as follows:

Barlaston	...	...	...	4
Fulford	...	...	...	1
Stone Rural	...	...	...	7 (1 Refused)
Swynnerton	...	...	...	5

There are two authorised camping sites situated within the Rural District, namely the Boys' Scout Camp at Kibblestone and the Girls' Training Corps Camp at Cotwalton.

Cases have come to light where caravans are being stationed on land within the Rural District without authority.

There is no doubt that this question is becoming a serious problem, and one which will have to be faced. The only satisfactory solution would appear to be to select a suitable site or sites which could be provided with all the amenities. Such sites could be properly controlled from a Public Health point of view and at the same time prevent the unauthorised siting of caravans throughout the district.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There is one public swimming bath in the district. This bath is an open air bath situated within the Trentham Gardens.

The water is satisfactory for drinking and bathing purposes.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Shops

Owing to pressure of other work it has not been possible to devote the time which one would have desired, to more energetic inspection of the shops. It is hoped that with the possibility of a further inspector being appointed, this work will be dealt with fully.

25 routine inspections have been carried out under the Shops Act, 1950.

Offices

No action has been necessary under this heading.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

No action has been necessary under this heading. Three premises have been cleansed as a result of infestation with fleas.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD Slaughter Houses

As reported in my previous annual report all animals, the food of which is intended for human consumption are slaughtered at the Ministry of Food Central Slaughter House at Stone. Meat Inspection, therefore, is carried out by the Urban District Council of Stone.

Knacker Yards

There are three licensed Knacker Yards still in operation within the district.

Bakehouses

Five Bakehouses (other than basement bakehouses) are being operated within the district. Ten inspections have been carried out. All premises comply with the Factories Act, 1937 and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Ice Cream

During the year, 8 premises have been registered for the sale of prepacked ice cream only.

Further samples of ice cream have been taken from time to time, the majority of which have proved to be satisfactory.

There is still only one factory within the district where ice cream is manufactured for consumption in other districts.

Petroleum Acts

During the past year 66 Petroleum Licences were issued. These licences represent a total capacity of 60,214 gallons.

Atmospheric Pollution

A separate report is being prepared in connection with atmospheric pollution in the area.

HOUSING

Number of Houses erected during the year

1. By the Local Authority ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
2. By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
3. By Private Development	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18

The total number of houses owned by the Council is now 453. The distribution of new houses erected and under construction during 1950 by parishes is tabulated below.

Parish	Council Houses		Private Enterprise	
	Completed	Under Construction	Completed	Under Construction
Barlaston	47	—	—	—
Chebsey	6	—	—	1
Eccleshall	8	22	4	2
Fulford	4	—	6	1
Hilderstone	—	—	—	—
Milwich	—	4	—	—
Sandon	—	—	—	—
Standon	—	6	—	—
Stone Rural	8	20	7	—
Swynnerton	14	10	1	1

It will be seen from the above figures that the Council erected 87 houses during the year, with a further 62 under construction.

Name of Local Authority	Estimated Population	Rateable Value	Council Houses Erected Since Cessation of Hostilities	Council Houses Under Construction	Total	No. of Houses Erected or in Course of Erection per 1,000 Population
Stone R.D.C. ...	17,000	£109,639	349	62	411	24.1
Stone U.D.C. ...	8,000	£42,727	158	6	164	20.5
Cheadle R.D.C. ...	32,000	£109,208	449	45	494	15.4
Cannock R.D.C. ...	24,000	£105,208	242	66	308	12.8
Leek R.D.C. ...	17,000	£60,456	54	30	84	5.0
Leek U.D.C. ...	20,000	£104,254	213	48	261	13.0
Lichfield R.D.C. ...	35,000	£188,246	539	124	663	18.9
Newcastle R.D.C. ...	17,000	£59,929	269	59	328	19.3
Seisdon R.D.C. ...	22,000	£112,381	168	78	246	11.2
Stafford R.D.C. ...	15,000	£84,197	124	18	142	9.4
Tutbury R.D.C. ...	15,000	£84,056	220	89	309	20.6
Uttoxeter R.D.C. ...	11,000	£43,020	122	14	136	12.3
Uttoxeter U.D.C. ...	7,000	£38,245	138	24	162	23.0

N.B.—These figures are based on the Returns issued by the Registrar General and the Ministry of Health.

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year 1950

1.	(a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	63
	(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	211
2.	(a) No. of dwelling houses (included under the sub head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded	125
	(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	165
3.	No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	12
4.	No. of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	38

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice

No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	33
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	12

Action under Statutory Powers during the year

Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	12
No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :	
By Owners	6
By the Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	73
No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
By Owners	42
By Local Authorities after default of owners	8

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1

Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936

No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	Nil

Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions	
			Found	Remedied
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by L.A.	32	Nil	Nil	
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. ..	45	Nil	Nil	
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. ..	30	Nil	Nil	
			No. of Defects.	
Defects found in Factories. Want of cleanliness .. ..	..	1	Found	Remedied
Sanitary Conveniences. Unsuitable or defective .. ..	..	0		

RODENT CONTROL

A full time Rodent Operative is still employed by the Council and particulars of the Annual Return made to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are tabulated below:—

PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE

Type of Property	Number of Properties in Area in which infestation was:		Number infested by:		
	Notified by Occupier	Otherwise Discovered	Rats		Mice only
			Major	Minor	—
Local Authority Property ...	Nil	15	1	14	—
Dwelling Houses	47	15	5	51	5
Business Premises	16	17	4	27	1

MEASURE OF CONTROL BY COUNCIL

Type of Property	No. of Properties inspected	No. of Inspections Made	No. of Treatments carried out
Local Authority Property ...	7	29	15
Dwelling Houses	65	113	62
Business Premises	45	74	34

Table showing Water Supplies by Parishes

Parish	No. of Houses	Staffs. P.W.B.	Private Supply	Standpipe Supply
Barlaston	567	550	—	—
Chebsey	136	103	—	—
Eccleshall	1,056	461	27	28
Fulford	576	509	—	—
Hilderstone	103	—	8	—
Milwich	122	10	—	—
Sandon	158	—	133	—
Standon	198	98	—	—
Stone Rural	567	504	8	—
Swynnerton	655	636	6	—

Milk Production.

Classification of Farms in Parishes.

Parish	Non-designated	Accredited	T.T.
Barlaston	21	20	5
Chebsey	8	11	—
Eccleshall	104	67	11
Fulford	32	15	2
Hilderstone	20	15	—
Milwich	36	23	2
Sandon	27	19	3
Standon	8	10	—
Stone Rural	33	38	10
Swynnerton	36	14	4
Totals	325	232	37

